

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

- gbs
1. (Original) A method of making an implantable bearing for an orthopaedic prosthesis, comprising the steps of:
- providing a first layer constructed of a polymer;
 - providing a second layer constructed of a copolymer comprising ethylene and an acrylate;
 - securing said first layer to said second layer so as to create a composite; and
 - forming said composite into a predetermined shape of said implantable bearing.
- a.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exposing said first layer to a dose of radiation so as to crosslink said polymer.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and methyl methacrylate.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and methyl acrylate.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and ethyl acrylate.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and butyl methacrylate.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and ethyl methacrylate.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said securing step and said forming step are performed contemporaneously.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said securing step comprises the step of compression molding said first layer and said second layer to one another.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into an acetabular bearing which is adapted to be implanted into an acetabulum of a patient.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into a glenoid bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a glenoid of a patient.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into a tibial bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a tibia of a patient.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming an articulating surface in said first layer.

14. (Original) An orthopaedic prosthesis, comprising:
an implantable bearing which is prepared by a process comprising the steps of
(i) securing a first layer constructed of a polymer to a second layer constructed of a
copolymer comprising ethylene and an acrylate so as to create a composite, and (ii) forming
said composite into a predetermined shape.

15. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said process
for preparing said implantable bearing further comprises the step of exposing said first layer
to a dose of radiation so as to crosslink said polymer.

16. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said acrylate
includes methyl methacrylate.

17. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said acrylate
includes methyl acrylate.

18. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said acrylate
includes ethyl acrylate.

19. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said acrylate
includes butyl methacrylate.

20. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said acrylate
includes ethyl methacrylate.

21. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said securing
step and said forming step are performed contemporaneously.

22. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said securing step comprises the step of compression molding said first layer and said second layer to one another.

23. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said implantable bearing is an acetabular bearing which is adapted to be secured to a acetabulum of a patient.

24. (Withdrawn) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said implantable bearing is a glenoid bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a glenoid of a patient.

25. (Withdrawn) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said implantable bearing is a tibial bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a tibia of a patient.

26. (Original) The orthopaedic prosthesis of claim 14, wherein said process for preparing said implantable bearing further comprises forming an articulating surface in said first layer.

27. - 37. (Cancelled)

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